

LESSON

23

PRACTICE WORKSHEET B

Onomatopoeia

Directions: Read the following poem, “Cat” by Eleanor Farjeon. Look for examples of **onomatopoeia** as you read. Then answer the items below.

<p>Cat! Scat! After her, after her. Sleeky flatterer, 5 Spitfire chatterer. Scatter her, scatter her. Off her mat! Wuff! Wuff! 10 Treat her rough! Git her, git her. Whiskery spitter! Catch her, catch her, Green-eyed scratcher. 15 Slathery Slithery Hisser. Don't miss her!</p>	<p>Run till you're dithery¹, 20 Hithery Thithery² <i>Pftts! pftts!</i> How she spits! <i>Spitch! Spatch!</i> Can't she scratch! 25 Scratching the bark Of the sycamore tree, She's reached her ark And's hissing at me Pftts! pftts! Wuff! wuff! 30 Scat, Cat! That's <i>That!</i></p>
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1. **dithery:** nervous and confused.

2. **Hithery / Thithery:** this way and that way

1. What sound do you think the poet imitates with *pftts! pftts!* What might the meaning of *scratching* be?

2. Tell why the words *hisser* and *chatterer* are, or are not, onomatopoeia.

3. Reread lines 20–25. What overall mood does the onomatopoeia create here?
